

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 2, 7-10, 12-14, 18, 20-23, 27 and 31 are pending herein.

Independent claims 1, 18, 27 and 31 have each been amended to recite the allowable features of claim 11. Claims 4, 11 and 19 have been cancelled hereby in favor of rewritten claims 1 and 18. Claims 7, 12, 14 and 21 have been amended to correct matters of form only. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added.

Applicants appreciate the PTO indicating that claims 11-14 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Applicants respectfully submit that rewritten independent claims 1, 18, 27 and 31 each recite the allowable features of claim 11. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1 and 18, and all claims depending directly or indirectly therefrom, and independent claims 27 and 31 are in condition for allowance. For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the PTO issue a Notice of Allowance for this application in due course.

1. The §112, second paragraph rejection of claim 21 is noted, but deemed moot in view of rewritten claim 21 submitted above. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the above rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.
2. The §102(b) rejection of claim 27 over Jones is noted, but deemed moot in view of rewritten claim 27 submitted above. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the above rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.
3. The §103(a) rejection of claims 1, 2, 4, 7-10, 18-23, 27 and 31 is noted, but deemed moot in view of the cancelled and rewritten claims submitted above. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the above rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

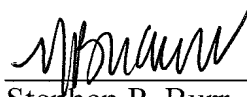
If the Examiner believes that contact with Applicants' attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, the Examiner is herein requested to call Applicants' attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,

March 11, 2008

Date



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